The information as on 31st December, 1989 is not readily available as the accounts for the period are yet to close.

(b) The debt service ratio is ormally computed on the basis of debt service payments as percentage of current receipts. On this basis the debt service payments (*i.e.* repayment of principal and payment of interest) is estimated to be 23 per cent of exports of goods and gross invisible receipts during 1988-89.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to boost exports and to increase invisible earnings to ensure efficient import substitution and to reduce dependency on external financing.

Price Rise in the country

295. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the price rise during the months of December, 1989 and January and February, 1990 in comparison to the corresponding periods of the previous three years?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : The requisite information is given below :

Month Percentage Change in WPI (1981-82=100) over previous month

	1990	1989	1988	1987
December	—	—0·5	—0·8	0·7
January	0·4	1·0	0·8	0·6
February	0·8	0·1	0·3	—0·4

Announcement of Indira Mahila Yojana on the eve of Lok Sabha Elections

296. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has taken note of the announcement of the Indira Mahila Yojana by the previous Government on the eve of the Lok Sabha elections;

(b) whether the Chief Election Commissioner had expressed his displeasure over the announcement ; and

(c) if so, what corrective measures are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Taking into consideration all relevent material the Election Commission felt that the announcement of Indira Mahila Yojana by the previous Government on the eve of the Lok Sabha elections was a border line case of violation of the Model Code of Conduct evolved by the Election Commission.

(c) The Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of political parties and candidates evolved by the Election Commission already contains the necessary gividelines in such matters. The question of providing a statutory backing to the said code is under consideration of the Committee on Electoral Reforms appointed by the Government to go into various proposals for electotal reforms.

Appointment of Judicial Commission

297. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to appoint a Judicial Commission;